



I



Borough of Lowestoft

REPORT

OF

**The Medical Officer
of Health**

AND

Port Medical Officer

for the Year

1967

ARTHUR C. GEE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN, AND COUNCILLORS OF THE BOROUGH OF
LOWESTOFT.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report of the health of the Borough for the year 1967, which is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

The mid-year population estimate provided by the Registrar-General has increased by 510 over the 1966 figure to 49,160. The total number of live and stillbirths (752) in 1967 was less by 108 than in 1966, and the adjusted rate per 1,000 population was just below the rate for England and Wales. Four fewer infant deaths (under one year) occurred, reducing slightly the principal rates per 1,000 in the various categories of infant deaths. Deaths from all causes rose from 585 to 606, and included one maternal death. There were slight variations only in the principal causes of deaths, except in respect of vascular lesions of the nervous system under which heading the number of deaths increased from 63 to 95. 10% (63) deaths occurred in the age groups under 55 years of age; 48% (293) were in the 75+ years age group.

354 notifications of infectious diseases were recorded, 320 of which were in respect of measles.

I am grateful to the General Manager of the East Anglian Water Company, the Borough Surveyor, and the Borough Treasurer, who have contributed reports and statistics concerning water supply, sewerage and public cleansing, meteorology, and other data.

Mr. Cormack, Chief Public Health Inspector, in the detailed report of the work carried out under his supervision, welcomes the addition of Mr. Bench to his staff, and draws attention to a number of items of particular interest dealt with in the Health Department. I am grateful to him and to his inspectors and other staff for their work during a year in which for six months they were under-staffed and under pressure.

I express my thanks to you, Mr. Mayor, and to members of the Council for the support given to me and to staff of the Health Department.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR C. GEE,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
CLAPHAM ROAD,
LOWESTOFT.

July, 1968.



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BOROUGH OF LOWESTOFT

HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1967

Chairman:

COUNCILLOR DR. SALMON

Vice-Chairman:

COUNCILLOR MR. MATTHEWS

THE MAYOR

ALDERMAN	MR. KEENE	COUNCILLOR	MR. HUMPHERY
	LANG		LONG, F. A.
”	MISS MANN	”	MOONEY
”	MR. WALLER	”	MRS. RAMM
COUNCILLOR	MR. ADAMS	”	MR. REYNOLDS
	BARNARD	”	MRS. RUMP
”	CHIPPERFIELD	”	MR. SCARLES
”	DURRANT, G.	”	WADE
”	HARMER		

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

*Medical Officer of Health, Port Medical Officer and Borough
School Medical Officer:*

ARTHUR C. GEE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Deputy Borough School
Medical Officer:*

ALLAN S. LINDSAY, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector, Port Health Inspector:

H. CORMACK, CERT.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, Deputy Port Health Inspector:

F. G. S. HILL, CERT.S.I.B.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

K. G. ADAMS, CERT.S.I.B.

J. C. BENCH, CERT.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I. (*from 25.6.67*)

J. R. FISHER, CERT.S.I.B.

I. GARROD (*trainee*)

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area 4,796 acres (Census 1961).

Area (including foreshore): 5,640 acres.

Population: 45,730 (Census, 1961).

49,160 (Registrar-General's mid year estimate).

Number of private households: 15,319 (Census, 1961).

Number of inhabited houses according to rate books at 31st March, 1968: 17,330.

Rateable value at 31st December, 1967: £1,874,927

Sum represented by a penny rate 1967/68: £7,618

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

	<i>LOWESTOFT</i>					<i>England and Wales rates</i>
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Crude rate</i>	<i>Adjusted rate</i>	
Live births—						
legitimate	677	345	332	—	—	—
illegitimate	66	39	27	—	—	—
total	743	384	359	—	—	—
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	15·1	15·8	17·2
Stillbirths—						
legitimate	7	4	3	—	—	—
illegitimate	2	1	1	—	—	—
total	9	5	4	—	—	—
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	—	—	—	11·9	10·6	14·8
Total live and stillbirths	752	389	363	—	—	—
Infant deaths— under one year—						
legitimate	11	4	7	—	—	—
illegitimate	2	1	1	—	—	—
total	13	5	8	—	—	—
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 livebirths	—	—	—	17·5	15·5	18·3

	LOWESTOFT					<i>England and Wales rates</i>
	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Crude rate</i>	<i>Adjusted rate</i>	
Infant mortality rate (legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate livebirths)	—	—	—	16·2	14·4	—
Infant mortality rate (illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate livebirths)	—	—	—	30·3	26·9	—
Infant deaths— under four weeks						
legitimate	7	2	5	—	—	—
illegitimate	2	1	1	—	—	—
total	9	3	6	—	—	—
Neo-natal (first four weeks) mortality rate per 1,000 livebirths	—	—	—	12·1	10·7	12·5
Infant deaths— under one week—						
legitimate	6	2	4	—	—	—
illegitimate	2	1	1	—	—	—
total	8	3	5	—	—	—
Early neo-natal (under one week) mortality rate per 1,000 livebirths	—	—	—	10·8	9·6	10·8
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under one week per 1,000 total liveandstillbirths)	—	—	—	22·6	20·1	25·4
Maternal deaths	1	—	1	—	—	—
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	—	—	—	1·3	1·1	0·16
Deaths from all causes	606	299	307	—	—	—
Death rate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	12·3	10·9	11·2

CAUSES OF DEATH

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	—	1
Syphilitic disease	2	1	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	20	11	9
Malignant neoplasm, lung and bronchus.....	22	17	5
Malignant neoplasm, breast	12	—	12
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	1	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	57	32	25
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1	1
Diabetes	2	1	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	95	36	59
Coronary disease, angina	136	84	52
Hypertension with heart disease	10	5	5
Other heart disease	57	25	32
Other circulatory disease	28	12	16
Influenza	8	1	7
Pneumonia	43	20	23
Bronchitis	24	15	9
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	3	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5	4	1
Gastritis, enteritis, diarrhoea	2	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	2	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	4	—
Congenital malformations	3	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	42	11	31
Motor vehicle accidents	6	4	2
All other accidents	10	6	4
Suicide	5	1	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, and abortion	1	—	1
	<u>606</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>307</u>

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifications of the following infectious diseases were received during the year (1966 figures shown bracketed):—

Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	13	(26)
Puerperal Pyrexia	.....	.....	—	(5)
Whooping Cough	.....	.....	1	(5)
Measles	.....	.....	320	(107)
Tuberculosis (Resp.)	.....	.....	11	(8)
Tuberculosis (other)	.....	.....	1	(—)
Food Poisoning	.....	.....	1	(4)
Infective Hepatitis.....	.....	.....	5	(9)
Pneumonia	.....	.....	1	(—)
Erysipelas.....	.....	.....	1	(—)

TUBERCULOSIS

SUMMARY OF TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER, 1967

	<i>Males</i>		<i>Females</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Pul-monary</i>	<i>Non-Pul-monary</i>	<i>Pul-monary</i>	<i>Non-Pul-monary</i>	
Number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1966	153	16	108	24	301
Number of cases added during the year	10	—	6	3	19
Number of cases removed during the year	9	2	4	3	18
Number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1967	154	14	110	24	302

<i>Cases Added to the Register</i>			<i>Cases Removed from the Register</i>		
New notifications	.....	12	Recovered	.....	14
Inward Transfers	.....	7	Died	.....	1
			Removed to other areas		3
		—			—
		19			18
		==			==

Tuberculosis patients and their families remain under the supervision of Dr. I. M. Young, Consultant Chest Physician, to whom Miss Stiles, one of the County Council's health visitors is attached for domiciliary visiting of the households.

STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS

The following categories of staff were medically examined during the year for the Borough, the County Council and other local authorities:—

Teachers for appointment or for admission to training colleges	75
Local government employees for entry into super-annuation and sick pay schemes, or on retirement	48
Road Safety Patrol	1
School Meals Canteen employees	26

HOME HELP SERVICE

	<i>Number of Cases dealt with</i>	<i>Hours Worked</i>
Maternity	51	2,745
Chronic sick, aged and infirm	629	148,693
Number of Home Helps working at 31st December, 1967—190		

DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS

The quantity of the various items issued was as follows (1966 figures bracketed):—

National Dried Milk, full cream, tins	4,599	(5,638)
National Dried Milk, half cream, tins	6	(9)
Orange Juice, bottles	10,819	(11,509)
Cod Liver Oil, bottles	948	(1,120)
Vitamin A and D, packets	1,209	(1,193)

BOROUGH OF LOWESTOFT										
REPORT OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVERS FOR 1967										
Sun		Rain		Average Daily Temperature		1967				
1967	Normal 1921-50 hrs.	1967	Normal 1916-50 ins.	1967	Normal 1921-50	Highest Max.	Lowest Min.	Lowest Max.	Highest Min.	Lowest Grass Min.
January	52.8	56.0	1.18	2.22	38.8	38.9	51	24	31	43
February	83.0	75.0	1.78	1.54	41.8	39.3	55	31	37	49
March	171.9	136.0	0.70	1.32	45.8	42.1	64	31	46	44
April	155.3	165.0	1.98	1.67	45.0	46.6	70	28	44	45
May	208.9	211.0	2.70	1.49	51.3	51.5	68	31	48	53
June	196.5	212.0	0.47	1.60	57.3	57.5	73	39	56	57
July	235.6	214.0	1.17	2.31	64.1	61.6	80	48	65	63
August	199.8	195.0	2.17	2.14	61.3	61.7	75	47	63	62
September	137.3	156.0	2.60	2.09	58.6	58.4	69	42	62	60
October	115.9	117.0	3.44	2.32	53.2	51.7	69	37	50	60
November	65.0	62.0	2.59	2.72	43.5	44.6	59	27	42	46
December	58.1	51.0	1.68	2.19	39.1	40.0	56	23	33	46
1680.1		1650.0	22.46	23.61						
Highest Maximum 80 degrees F. on 26th July										
Lowest Minimum 23 degrees F. on 9th December										
Greatest rainfall in a day—1.04 inches on 4th November.										
Date of last frost of Spring—3rd May.										
Sunshine—Sun hrs. were above the yearly normal by 30.1 hrs.										
Lowest Maximum 31 degrees F. on 8th January										
Highest Minimum 63 degrees F. on 19th and 31st July.										
Date of first frost of Autumn—7th November.										
Rainfall—Rainfall was below the yearly normal by 1.15 ins.										

WATER SUPPLY

Water is supplied to the whole of the town by the East Anglian Water Company and I am indebted to the General Manager, J. M. Boon, Esq., F.C.I.S., F.I.A.C., for the following information.

The supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality. Bacteriological examinations are made of the raw water at monthly intervals. The water leaving the treatment works at Lound is examined at fortnightly intervals and water supplied to the consumer is examined at weekly intervals. Monthly samples are taken in Lowestoft and submitted for full chemical analysis. The fluoride content of the water has remained constant at 0·1 part per million.

The water supply does not have plumbo solvent action which could be injurious to health.

No cases of contamination of the water distributed to the public have arisen during the year.

There are no common standpipes in use in the borough.

A copy of the report on a water sample taken on 11th December, 1967, is reproduced below.

Chemical

Appearance	.....	.....	Bright with a few particles
Colour (Hazen)	.....	.....	7
pH	.....	.....	7·3
Electric Conductivity	.....	.....	470
Chlorine present as Chloride	.....	.....	56
Hardness: Total	.....	.....	200 { Carbonate 105 Non-carbonate 95
Nitrate Nitrogen	.....	.....	3·7
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	.....	.....	0·04
Albuminoid Nitrogen	.....	.....	0·12
Iron	.....	.....	0·04
Other Metals	.....	.....	Zinc, Copper, Lead, Manganese—Absent
Turbidity	.....	.....	less than 3
Odour	.....	.....	very faint chlorinous
Free Carbon Dioxide	.....	.....	11
Dissolved Solids dried at 180°	.....	.....
C.	.....	.....	325
Alkalinity as Calcium Car-	.....	.....
bonate	.....	.....	105
Nitrite Nitrogen	.....	.....	approximately 0·01
Oxygen absorbed	.....	.....	1·4
Residual Chlorine.....	.....	.....	0·03

Bacteriological

Number of colonies developing on Agar

1 day at 37°C. 3 per million	2 days at 37°C. 4 per million	3 days at 20-22°C. 0 per million
	<i>Absent from</i>	<i>Most probable No.</i>
Presumptive Coliform reaction	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli (Type 1)	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	100 ml.	

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction slightly on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is moderately hard in character and contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of satisfactory organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic use.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The following report on Drainage, Sewerage, Public Cleansing, and Street Cleansing has been kindly supplied by the Borough Engineer and Surveyor, D. J. E. Hone, Esq., B.SC.(ENG.), A.M.I.C.E.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Work on Phase I of the Main Drainage Scheme continued and a start was made on Phase II with Mr. Alan King undertaking both contracts.

The preparation of contract documents for Phase IIIA is proceeding and it is anticipated that tenders will be invited for this work in mid-1968. Phase IIIA consists mainly of sewerage the northern part of the town, i.e., the Gunton area. There remains Phase IIIB of the complete scheme. This is the new Sea Outfall, and it is anticipated that work on this will commence in 1969.

Delays have been experienced on the tunnel underneath the inner harbour but construction of this should start early in 1968.

The Oulton Industrial Estate which was developed during the year created certain drainage difficulties but temporary surface water provision was made and the completion of Phase II of the Main Drainage Scheme should completely resolve the problems.

Work on the Beccles Road Surface Water Sewer is due to start early in 1968, and should relieve certain local flooding.

Construction of the Bloodmoor Lane Relief road has provided an opportunity to construct, as part of the contract, a surface water sewer which will serve the Gisleham Industrial Estate, and at the same time a limited length of foul sewer is to be laid under the roundabout on A.12 to enable the foul sewers on the estate to be connected into the existing system.

Additional small drainage schemes are constantly being dealt with in connection with the many new estate developments in the town.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Pail closets emptied by Corporation	.....	.....	40
Cesspools emptied by Corporation	.....	.....	191
Refuse disposal by controlled tipping	.....	.....	17,350 tons
Approximate number of premises from which refuse is collected (excluding summer caravans)	.....	.....	19,210

Labour for refuse collection:—

Thirty loaders

Six drivers full time

One driver two days per week.

Collection vehicles:—

Two Shelvoke and Drewry fore and aft tippers

Four Shelvoke and Drewry Pakamatic vehicles

One Bedford side loading vehicle with night soil trailer (two days per week).

Labour at disposal tip:—

One man plus one driver with Weatherill Mechanical Shovel.

The North Denes was used for controlled tipping during the winter months and summer tipping was carried out at pits in Poplar Road, Carlton Colville and behind Monckton Avenue.

STREET CLEANSING

A force of twenty-one orderlies was used in the summer and this was reduced to nineteen during the winter when the service along the Esplanade is not so demanding in labour. Two orderlies work with the driver of the manulectric truck in the town centre whilst the remainder of the orderlies operate individually and the sweepings are collected by a lorry for disposal. Where possible, a mechanical suction sweeper is used for cleaning footpaths. Road gulleys are cleansed by means of a gully emptying machine approximately three times per year.

A Johnston suction sweeper with dual controls is used for sweeping carriageways where manual sweeping is limited or uneconomic, e.g., the outskirts of the town.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

There was an increase in the number of complaints made about alleged noise nuisances. Noises complained of included those arising from industrial processes and from excessively loud music. The majority of people are prepared to accept a certain level of noise during ordinary daytime working hours but object to this noise at night and week-ends. During the daytime the background noise of traffic, etc., tends to deaden the sound of industrial noise but at night time this noise can become unbearable. To carry out investigations so as to be in a position to say with certainty whether or not a complaint is justified it was found necessary on many occasions to make inspections late at night and into the early hours of the morning. At one factory several thousand pounds were spent in carrying out sound-proofing work and the management are fully alive to their responsibilities in this matter. In a further case sound-proofing work was completely out of the question on account of cost and location of the building and after the service of an abatement notice the firm moved to more suitable premises.

During the early part of the year the factory where the offensive trades of fat melter, tallow melter, etc., were carried on, closed down as the site was to be acquired by the Borough Council as part of a redevelopment area. This closure was welcomed by the department as the business was always a potential source of nuisance from offensive odours and necessitated daily inspections by members of the staff. When considering the location of industries in a town centre it is vital to ensure that any industry which can give rise to nuisance should be excluded.

Mr. J. C. Bench commenced duty as an Additional Public Health Inspector on the 26th June, 1967. For nine months we had been short of one inspector and once again it is my pleasure to place on record my appreciation of all the members of my staff for the conscientious and efficient way in which they carried out their duties during the year under review. Details of work undertaken are shown in the following pages of the report.

HOUSING

During the year the remainder of the properties in the Chapel Street Clearance Area were demolished and work commenced on the building of a sixteen storey block of flats.

Demolition commenced on the unfit properties in the Beach Area and one hopes that this will soon be completed. Derelict properties are a depressing sight and a ready haven for vagrants with all the associated health problems that such occupation can lead to.

STATISTICS

Houses built by private enterprise during the year	.....	.....	350
Houses built by the Council	.....	.....	61
Houses for which Standard Grants were made under the Housing Act	.....	.....	133
Houses for which Discretionary Grants were made under the Housing Act	.....	.....	109

Houses rendered fit for habitation:—

(a) by informal action	.....	.....	.....	.....	65
(b) by formal action under the Public Health Acts	.....				19
(c) by formal action under the Housing Acts	.....	.....			11
Families rehoused from unfit houses	.....	.....	.....		14
Unfit houses demolished in Clearance Areas	.....	.....			7
Individual Unfit houses demolished	.....	.....	.....		60
Unfit houses closed	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Fit houses adjoining clearance areas demolished after having been purchased for site development	.....	.....	.....		11
Inspections of houses made under the Public Health Acts	.....				144
Inspections of houses made under the Housing Acts	.....				179
Revisits made under the Public Health Acts	.....	.....			477
Revisits made under the Housing Acts	.....	.....	.....		753
Visits made under the Rent Acts	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
VISITS CONCERNING HEALTH CONDITIONS					
Accumulations	.....	.....	.....	.....	190
Animals	.....	.....	.....	.....	17
Caravans	.....	.....	.....	.....	149
Licensed Camping Sites	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
Controlled Tips	.....	.....	.....	.....	42
Dirty Houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
Dirty Persons	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Drainage	.....	.....	.....	.....	829
Drain Tests	.....	.....	.....	.....	43
Factories (mechanical power)	.....	.....	.....	.....	73
Factories (non-mechanical power)	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
Noise complaints	.....	.....	.....	.....	202
Offensive Smells	.....	.....	.....	.....	123
Offensive Trades	.....	.....	.....	.....	39
Passages	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Piggeries	.....	.....	.....	.....	27
Pigeons	.....	.....	.....	.....	43
Dust and Smoke emissions	.....	.....	.....	.....	156
Swimming Baths	.....	.....	.....	.....	241
Water Supply	.....	.....	.....	.....	47
Verminous Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	49
NOTICES SERVED					
Informal Notices	.....	125	Complied with	.....	95
Statutory Notices	.....	50	Complied with	.....	32
(P.H.A.24, H.A.26)			(P.H.A.23, H.A.9)		

SWIMMING BATHS

Six permanent and six collapsible type baths were in use during the summer months. Seventy-four samples of bath water were procured by the Inspectors and submitted for bacteriological examination. Seventy-two samples were up to the standard of safety recommended by the Ministry of Health. In the remaining two cases the laboratory reports showed the need for more careful chlorination of the bath water and this was seen to immediately.

A total of 241 visits were made in connection with sampling and checking that chlorination was satisfactory. In the case of one permanent school pool difficulty was experienced in maintaining the level of free chlorine. After detailed investigation it was found that the liquid chlorine was being injected into the return pipe from the bath and prior to filtration instead of on the return pipe to the bath after filtration. The chlorine was thus being wasted on the debris accumulating on the filters. As soon as the chlorinator was fitted on the return pipe to the bath after the water had been filtered, no further difficulty was encountered.

OFFICES, SHOPS, AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

All of the premises registered with the borough under this Act have by now been inspected, reported upon, and checked up. The following table and report is a copy of the annual report which under Section 60 of the Act has to be submitted to the Ministry of Labour. This indicates the improvements carried out as a result of representations by the Public Health Inspectors.

At certain premises where parts of the building are old or badly laid out, or not equipped with the highest standard of fittings, it has been found that the firms concerned have remembered previous discussions with the Public Health Inspector, and when submitting architect's plans for building byelaw approval have incorporated improvements which will provide the highest standard of convenience and amenity for their employees.

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

<i>Class of premises</i>		<i>Number of premises newly registered during the year</i>	<i>Total number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	.....	6	136	8
Retail Shops	.....	8	315	74
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	.....	—	22	4
Catering establishments open to the public, Canteens	.....	2	47	18
Fuel Storage Depots	.....	—	3	—
<i>Totals</i>		16	523	104

NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS INCLUDING GENERAL INSPECTIONS TO REGISTERED PREMISES—277

ANALYSIS BY WORKPLACE OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES AT END OF YEAR

<i>Class of workplace</i>			<i>Number of persons employed</i>
Offices	.....	.....	1198
Retail Shops	.....	.....	1644
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses	.....	.....	201
Catering establishments open to the public.....			496
Canteens	.....	.....	19
Fuel Storage Depots	.....	.....	33
<i>Total</i>			3591
<i>Total Males</i>			1627
<i>Total Females</i>			1964

CONTRAVENTIONS

<i>Contravention (observed during the year - 1967)</i>	<i>No. of premises affected</i>	<i>No. of premises where contra- vention has been remedied 1967</i>
Absence of Abstract Notice	10	15
Unsatisfactory Cleanliness	17	24
Overcrowding	—	2
Insufficient Heating	2	6
Absence of Thermometer	6	10
Inadequate Ventilation	6	2
Insufficient Lighting	3	3
Defective Floors	9	9
Dangerous Openings	2	2
Seats Required (Shops)	—	4
„ „ (Offices)	—	1
Footrests Required	—	—
Machinery in need of Guarding	2	2
<i>Stairs and Passages :</i>		
(a) Defective Condition	1	3
(b) Handrails required	2	2
(c) Insufficient Lighting	—	—
First Aid Boxes Required	9	10
Absence of Drinking Water	1	—
Clothing Accommodation Re- quired	1	1
<i>Washing Facilities :</i>		
(a) Insufficient	3	3
(b) Defective Condition	7	11
(c) Insufficient Lighting	1	2
(d) Absence of H. and C. Water	3	4
(e) Absence of Soap and Towels	6	8
<i>Sanitary Conveniences :</i>		
(a) Insufficient	1	2
(b) Insufficient Lighting	2	5
(c) Insufficient Ventilation	3	1
(d) Defective Condition	9	12

These contraventions were in respect of 36 premises.

Contraventions were remedied in full in respect of 37 premises.

ACCIDENTS REPORTED DURING 1967

Eight notifications of accidents to persons covered by the Act were notified during 1967. Two women and six men were affected. Five accidents were caused by slipping or falling; one was caused by a knife slipping off a bone; one was caused by a metal hook and one whilst lifting a packing case of less than 5 lbs. in weight.

One accident was caused by a man tripping in the darkness over a metal bar used to secure large gates whilst on his way to isolate the main power supply to the premises. He suffered a fractured kneecap and elbow, and sustained severe body bruising. Recommendations were made to the firm concerned to provide a small entrance door with an additional light for use when closing down the premises.

The accident caused by a metal hook arose whilst an employee was putting bananas on a display rail. The banana stalk split and in trying to prevent the bananas from falling, the employee's thumb was pierced by the sharp end of the metal 'S' hook. The firm were advised to secure purpose-made hooks without sharp ends, or to blunt the ends of the 'S' hooks then in use.

In the other six cases, there were no contraventions of the Act and further action was not necessary.

RODENT CONTROL

Treatments of the sewers were carried out in February, July, and November and only a very low level of infestation was recorded.

There were 1,176 complaints from members of the public regarding rodent infestations.

Details of the work undertaken by the two rodent operators are tabulated below and I would again record my appreciation of the conscientious and efficient manner in which they have carried out this work.

	<i>Non Agricultural</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
Total number of properties in- spected	1861	21
Number treated for rats	1405	18
Number treated for mice	284	—

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES

No major changes occurred at licensed caravan sites. 189 visits were made to licensed sites and individual caravans and twelve to the North Denes Tenting Site.

Temporary problems of refuse collection complaints, blocked drainage soakaways, ant infestations, etc., were either dealt with on the sites immediately or referred to site managers or the appropriate Council departments for attention.

The Council approved the carrying out of necessary drainage and water supply works to an additional one acre of land adjoining the Council Caravan site at North Denes, which is operating under Temporary permission.

At intervals, travelling caravaners, gipsies, and tinkers parked their vehicles on Council land in the Beach area or adjoining the North Denes Caravan Site. All were persuaded to move on after notices to quit had been served on them.

There are licensed sites in the Borough for:—

470 Holiday caravans

103 Permanent caravans.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN

Premises disinfested	25
Visits to destroy wasps nests	294
Cockroach infestations dealt with	10
Earwigs, ants, etc., infestations dealt with	50

NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS CARRIED OUT ON FOOD PREMISES

Bakehouses	62	Grocers	214
Cafes.....	71	Hotels	25
Canteens	45	Ice Cream Makers	3
Cold Stores	8	Ice Cream Retailers	36
Dairies	14	Licensed Premises	73
Food Factories	70	Market Stalls	29
Fish Curers	17	Meat Shops	86
Fishmongers	5	Merchandise Marks Act	13
Fried Fish Shops	44	Restaurants	60
Food Hygiene Regulations.....	593	Sweet Shops.....	14
Greengrocers	23	Warehouses	10

INSPECTION OF UNSOUND FOOD

195 visits were made to inspect unsound food.

The following list summarizes the food stuffs condemned as unsound or unsaleable. These were disposed of by burying in the Council Tip or, in the case of fish, by consignment to a fish meal factory.

Butter (including cocoa butter).....	.....	.....	9½ cwts.
Cereals .....	.....	.....	5 pkts.
Cheese and cheese products .....	.....	.....	179 lbs.
Cream .....	.....	.....	37 tins
Creamed Rice .....	.....	.....	15 tins
Fish (canned) .....	.....	.....	440 tins
Fish (fresh) .....	.....	.....	48 stones
Frozen Chickens .....	.....	.....	110 lbs.
Fruit Canned .....	.....	.....	1,971 tins
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables .....	.....	.....	2 tons
Meat and meat products (canned) .....	.....	.....	559 tins
Meat and meat products (fresh) .....	.....	.....	1,320 lbs.
Milk canned .....	.....	.....	187 tins
Puddings, etc. ....	.....	.....	148 tins
Soups .....	.....	.....	412 tins
Tomatoes (canned) .....	.....	.....	318 tins
Vegetables (canned) .....	.....	.....	992 tins

Total weight approximately 5 tons 14 cwts.

The reasons for condemnation included damaged or unsound tins, decomposition of fresh food stuffs due to delays in transit, health risks due to frozen foods thawing out after refrigerator breakdowns, contamination of loose food stuffs in transit by rail and sea, etc.

FOOD HYGIENE

No serious case of neglectful maintenance of food premises was found during the year but concern was felt about the number of complaints received concerning the sale of mouldy wrapped food stuffs and meat pies. In any warm spell of weather, and particularly during 1967 which was notable for long periods of settled weather, many wrapped types of cake and pies are particularly prone to develop mould growth if kept too long before retail sale. The safe period varies according to the type of food stuff. With few exceptions manufacturers inform their retail outlets of this shelf life so that it is then up to retailers to rotate their stock accordingly and reduce purchases to meet the strict demands of their trade day to day or week to week.

I sent a circular letter to all food traders in July concerning the care of meat pies, bringing the above points to their particular notice. A further case of a mouldy sausage roll resulted in the retailer being prosecuted by the Council and the Magistrates after finding the case proven imposed fines on the defendant.

All mobile food traders operating in the Borough were sent a summary of the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls, and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations. Only a limited amount of follow up work has been possible in this field. There will be a big improvement in the toilet and washing facilities available for stall holders at Old Market Plain when the Council build a proposed new public convenience. Up to the present, although washing facilities are provided in the existing block, one is far from satisfied with existing arrangements.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE BOROUGH

<i>No. of food premises subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960</i>	<i>No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 Wash hand basins</i>	<i>No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies Facilities for washing food and equipment</i>	<i>No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19</i>
Bakery Depots 2	2	2	2
Bakehouses 10	10	10	10
Butcher's Shops 50	50	50	50
Boarding Houses 61	61	61	61
Cafes Restaurants 64	64	64	64
Canteens 29	29	29	29
Confectioner's Shops 65	65	30	34
Cold Stores 3	3	3	3
Factories 15	15	15	15
Fish Curers 12	12	12	12
Fishmonger Shops 12	12	12	12
Fried Fish Shops 32	32	32	32
Greengrocer Shops 26	25	17	17
Grocer Shops 167	167	153	153
Holiday Camps 1	1	1	1
Hotels/Licensed Premises 122	122	117	117
Warehouses 5	5	4	4
Institutions 4	4	4	4
Shrimp Boiling Premises 1	1	1	1

MILK

There were fewer complaints by milk users of dirty bottles or objects in bottles than in previous years. One reason for this may be that an electronic scanner for washed bottles was installed at one dairy which produces a lot of the bottled milk sold in Lowestoft. At another dairy which also produces milk for Lowestoft washed bottles pass in front of a large magnifying glass which is manned by a team of girl spottees. Both of these dairies find and break up many dozens of fouled bottles daily, which means that many members of the public still put the returnable milk bottle to many objectionable uses.

It is interesting to record that Tetrapak non-returnable milk cartons appeared on sale to the public of the Borough.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

	<i>Untreated</i>	<i>Pasteurised</i>	<i>Sterilized</i>
Samples tested	11	108	5
Satisfactory results	9	98	5
Unsatisfactory results	2	10	—

These figures include fifteen samples of Pasteurised school milk.

BIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

Producer’s milk was sampled at all the farms in the Borough and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for tubercle bacillus, brucella abortus, and penicillin residue tests.

All tubercle and brucella tests were negative.

One sample gave a positive result to the penicillin residue test revealing the recent use of penicillin injection to one cow in milk. The farmer was warned to discard to waste the milk from any cow until forty-eight hours had elapsed after an udder had been injected with penicillin. This time limit is clearly stated on the labels of the various veterinary preparations used to control mastitis in cows.

COMPOSITIONAL SAMPLING

	<i>Untreated</i>	<i>Pasteurised</i>	<i>Sterilized</i>
Samples tested	11	100	5
Satisfactory results	10	98	5
Results below standard of 3·0% Fat and 8·5% Non-Fatty solids	1	2	—

There was no cause to suspect adulteration of any milk sampled. All samples of Channel Islands milk contained more than the minimum of butter fat (4%).

ICE CREAM

Samples obtained for grading test .....	.....	.....	28
Satisfactory results of grading test .....	.....	.....	25
Unsatisfactory results of grading test .....	.....	.....	3

The unsatisfactory results brought to light faulty sterilization of ice cream server machines and one unsatisfactory batch of ice cream manufactured in a neighbouring town. After checking the equipment concerned follow up samples were obtained, and these were quite satisfactory.

FOOD SAMPLES

144 samples of food and drink were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. Adverse reports on eighteen samples were based on the following facts:—

- Incorrect descriptions on labels
- Failure to conform with statements on the labels
- Excessive aerating agent in a sample of flour
- Insufficient meat content in two canned meat products
- Presence of non-permitted colouring matter in one sample of imported food.

Appropriate action was taken in each case to ensure that future products of the varieties tested would comply with legal requirements.

Three samples of food were procured as part of a national scheme of food testing to determine whether or not there is any public health risk from pesticide residues getting into food, i.e., through crop fruit etc., spraying. Each sampling authority samples specific food stuffs at a certain time so that all staple articles of diet are examined and when the national results are available it will be seen whether, if there is any hazard, intensive further sampling and testing is necessary. The three samples were satisfactory.

FACTORIES ACT

ANNUAL REPORT IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1967

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on register</i>	<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Number of</i>	
			<i>Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	11	15	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	232	107	7	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	—	—	—
<i>Total</i>	250	122	9	—

FACTORIES ACT

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred to H.M. I.F.</i>	<i>Referred by H.M. I.F.</i>	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	8	3	1	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	—	1	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) insufficient	1	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	21	20	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	1	1	1	—
<i>Total</i>	33	24	3	1	—

FACTORIES ACT

PART VIII OF THE ACT

<i>Nature of Work</i>	<i>Section 133</i>			<i>Section 134</i>		
	<i>No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c)</i>	<i>No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council</i>	<i>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</i>	<i>No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises</i>	<i>Notices served</i>	<i>Prosecutions</i>
Wearing apparel making, etc.	5	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire nets	79	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	47	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Total</i>	131	—	—	—	—	—

LOWESTOFT PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1967

Port Medical Officer of Health: DR. A. C. GEE

Chief Port Health Inspector: H. CORMACK

Deputy Port Health Inspector: F. G. S. HILL

CHARACTER OF PORT

The outer harbour consists of the Waveney Dock, Hamilton Dock, and Trawl Dock and the inner harbour is formed by Lake Lothing from the Swing Bridge to Mutford Lock.

The outer harbour is used for the landing of white fish and herrings and for the fuelling and icing of the fishing fleet. The inner harbour is used for ship building, repairs, and servicing of shipping and general commercial use.

The new quay and transit shed mentioned in last year's report was completed in 1967. The quay which is 550 feet long is of sheet piled construction and the Custom's approved transit shed is 300 feet long by 100 feet wide. There is a forty feet apron in front of the transit shed and the whole area has been provided with ample parking space for lorries.

The shipment of cattle both inward and outward was commenced again after many years and suitable lairage accommodation has been provided within the port area.

The jetty in the Inner Harbour for the berthing of research vessels belonging to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has been completed.

A new fish processing factory with office accommodation has been erected by Messrs. Ross Group.

MEDICAL SERVICES

The Port Medical Officer is frequently asked for medical advice regarding injured or sick seamen aboard vessels making for the port. Details of these cases come to the shipping agents concerned, by radio telephone.

Foreign seamen are seen by the Port Medical Officer and either sent to hospital or the master of the vessel given instructions regarding suitable treatment. Seamen on local boats, who live in the district are referred to their own family doctors.

The Royal National Mission to Deep Sea Fishermen has a modern hostel for fishermen in the town, to which a local general practitioner is attached for any medical services that may be required.

WATER SUPPLY

The scheme to provide mains water on the Waveney Dock has been completed and metered supplies of water are now provided to every office and fish merchants stands. Additional supplies are also provided for the watering of trawlers and the cleansing of the market. Use of chlorinated dock water has now been discontinued.

MARKET CLEANSING

The fish markets are hosed down daily using mains water and this work has been efficiently carried out all through the year by the employees of the Docks Board.

FISH LANDINGS FOR THE YEAR

2,180 landings were made by trawlers during the year, a reduction of 132 as compared with 1966. Two trawlers joined the fleet, six left to fish from other ports, one was lost at sea and one went for breaking up.

The quantities and values of fish landed during 1967 are set out below:—

	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Value (£'s)</i>
Brill	187	1,725
Catfish	1,876	5,803
Cod	123,573	488,919
Conger Eels	6	16
Dabs	3,411	11,874
Dogfish	5,030	17,229
Flounders.....	3	5
Gurnards	895	2,420
Haddock	14,476	59,215
Hake	86	539
Halibut	56	770
Lemon Soles	8,643	72,247
Ling	605	1,081
Mackerel (Trawl)	44	142
Monkfish	555	2,636
Plaice	255,188	1,649,720
Pollock	106	260
Roes	366	2,141
Saithe	233	526
Skates/Rays	4,812	24,168
Soles	5,620	136,898
Turbot	8,550	135,176
Whiting	2,628	6,724
Witches	294	1,141
All others.....	729	1,885
<i>Totals</i>	<u>437,972</u>	<u>£2,623,260</u>

EAST ANGLIAN HERRING FISHING SEASON

Number of Landings	.....	.....	.....	.....	93
Quantity of Crans landed	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,267
Value	.....	.....	.....	.....	£36,614

Disposal of herring during the season:—

		<i>Crans</i>
Redded	.....	525
Kippered	.....	418
Marinated	.....	113
Frozen	.....	48
Freshed	.....	2,152
Whelk Bait	.....	11
		<hr/>
	<i>Total</i>	3,267
		<hr/>

The Lowestoft drifter fleet consisted of only three vessels.

INSPECTIONS

1,495 inspections of trawlers and drifters were made during the year in connection with the sanitary condition of crews quarters, water supply, and the cleanliness of fish rooms.

The attention of the owners was drawn to the following conditions:—

Galleys in need of cleansing	.....	.....	.....	9
Food lockers in need of painting	.....	.....	.....	7
Dirty bedding	.....	.....	.....	9
Defective water closets	.....	.....	.....	3
Unsatisfactory cleanliness of crews quarters	.....	.....	.....	9
Drinking water tanks in need of cleansing	.....	.....	.....	51

As in previous years immediate attention was given by the owners to the remedying of these conditions.

FISH INSPECTION

All white fish landed was inspected daily before the commencement of the fish auction sales.

RODENT CONTROL

278 inspections were made in connection with the issue of certificates under the Prevention of Damage by Pests (Application to Shipping) (Amendment No. 2) Order, 1956.

Minor infestations were reported aboard six trawlers and these were dealt with by the Council's rodent operator.

VERMIN

Crew accommodation was disinfested for the following causes:—

Lice	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 trawler
Scabies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 trawlers

CONCLUSION

It is once again our pleasure to place on record our appreciation of the ready and willing co-operation which has at all times been accorded to the Public Health Department by the Docks Manager and his staff, the District Fisheries Officer, H.M. Customs and Excise Officers, and the various sections of the fishing industry.

SECTION I—STAFF					
TABLE A.	<i>Name of officer</i>	<i>Nature of appointment</i>	<i>Date of appointment</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>	<i>Any other appointments held</i>
	ARTHUR C. GEE	Port Medical Officer of Health	1.1.49	M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.	Area Medical Officer of Health E.S.C.C.
	H. CORMACK	Chief Port Health Inspector	6.9.52	Cert S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.	Chief Public Health Inspector
	F. G. S. HILL	Deputy Port Health Inspector	3.1.55	Cert S.I.B.	Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector
Address and telephone number of } Public Health Department, Clapham Road, Lowestoft. the Medical Officer of Health } Telephone No. : Lowestoft 2171.					
TABLE B.					
SECTION II—AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR					
<i>Ships from :</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Tonnage</i>	<i>Number Inspected</i>		<i>Number of ships reported as having or having had during the voyage infectious disease on board</i>
			<i>By the Medical Officer of Health</i>	<i>By the Port Health Inspectors</i>	
Foreign Ports	486	116,952	Nil	72	Nil
Coastwise	468	53,916	Nil	8	Nil
<i>Total</i>	954	170,868	Nil	80	Nil

TABLE B. SECTION II.

BRITISH FISHING VESSELS—Number of Landings by British Fishing Vessels made in the Port during the year.

	<i>Landings</i>	<i>Approx. Tonnage</i>	<i>Inspections</i>
TRAWLERS :	2,180	121,832	} 1,495
DRIFTERS :	93	562	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
<i>Total :</i>	2,273	122,394	

TABLE C.

SECTION III—CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING THE YEAR

Passenger Traffic : Number of Passengers INWARDS—Nil
 Number of Passengers OUTWARDS—Nil

Cargo Traffic: Principal IMPORTS—Cereal, Apples, Fruit Pulp, Peas, Butter, Cocoa Butter, Canned Meats,
 Timber, Roadstone, Oil, Spirit, Paraffin Wax, Zinc Ingots, Asbestos
 Fibre, Fertiliser, Various Chemicals, Manufactured Goods.
 Principal EXPORTS—Barley, Beans, Various Chemicals, Steel Tubes, Metal Manufactures,
 Car Parts, Waste Paper.

<i>Principal Ports from which Ships arrive:</i>	
HOLLAND	—Rotterdam, Ijmuiden
RUSSIA	—Onega, Measane, Leningrad
SWEDEN	—Gelfe, Norsundet, Stugsund, Hudiksvall, Stutskar, Kristinhamn
FINLAND	—Mantylä, Tapila, Katka
POLAND	—Gdansk, Stettin
BRAZIL	—Soa Francisco Do Sul
CYPRUS	—Limassol

SECTION IV—INLAND BARGE TRAFFIC

Numbers and Tonnage using the district and places served by the traffic—Nil

SECTION V—WATER SUPPLY

No Change

SECTION VI—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHIPS) REGULATIONS, 1952-1961

No Change

SECTION VII—SMALLPOX

No Change

SECTION VIII—VENEREAL DISEASE

No Change

TABLE D.					
SECTION IX—CASES OF NOTIFIABLE AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ON SHIPS					
<i>Category</i>	<i>Disease</i>	<i>Number of cases during the year</i>		<i>Number of ships concerned</i>	
		<i>Passengers</i>	<i>Crew</i>		
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Cases landed from other ships	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	
SECTION X—OBSERVATIONS OF THE OCCURRENCE OF MALARIA IN SHIPS					
No occurrence of this disease					
SECTION XI—MEASURES TAKEN AGAINST SHIPS INFECTED WITH OR SUSPECTED FOR PLAGUE					
No occurrence of this disease					

SECTION XII—MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

No Change

TABLE E.

RODENTS DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR IN SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS

Nil—Not an approved Port

TABLE F. DERATTING CERTIFICATES AND DERATTING EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED
DURING THE YEAR FOR SHIPS FROM FOREIGN PORTS Nil—Not an approved Port

TABLE G. SECTION XIII—INSPECTION OF SHIPS FOR NUISANCE. INSPECTION AND NOTICES				
<i>Nature of inspection</i>	<i>Number inspected</i>	<i>Notices served</i>		<i>Result of serving notices</i>
		<i>Statutory notices</i>	<i>Other notices</i>	
Foreign Shipping	72	Nil	6	<p>These concerned:—</p> <p>Deratization certificate out of date (1)</p> <p>Cockroach infestation (2)</p> <p>Untidy food pantries (1)</p> <p>Defective washing and sanitary fittings (2)</p> <p>These ships have not returned to the port.</p> <p>Defective fittings were to be replaced at home ports when the ships returned for annual refit.</p>
Coastwise Shipping	8	Nil	3	<p>These concerned:—</p> <p>Deratization certificate out of date (1)</p> <p>Cockroach infestation (1)</p> <p>Defective pump and galley drain (1)</p> <p>One ship was fumigated to abate cockroach infestation and the defective pump and galley drain were repaired.</p>
British Fishing Vessels	1,495	Nil	63	<p>These concerned:—</p> <p>Dirty galleys (9)</p> <p>Unsatisfactory food lockers (7)</p> <p>Dirty bedding (9)</p> <p>Defective W.C's. (3)</p> <p>Unsatisfactory cleanliness of crews quarters (9)</p> <p>Water tanks needing cleansing (51)</p> <p>All the notices were complied with.</p>

SECTION XIV—PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELL FISH) REGULATIONS, 1934 and 1948

Nil

SECTION XV—MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ALIENS (APPLICABLE ONLY TO PORTS APPROVED FOR
LANDING OF ALIENS)

Not an approved Port

SECTION XVI—MISCELLANEOUS (ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE BURIAL ON SHORE OF PERSONS
WHO HAVE DIED ON BOARD FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASE).

No Change

